

Volk, Everett

From: Berry, Vern
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 9:54 AM
To: Garcia, Bert; Sutin, Elyana; Spence, Sandra
Cc: Kinsey, Julie; Lavelle, Bonita; Gilpatrick, Rory
Subject: FW: MT TMDL - Update for May 10, 2013

FYI – I had to look it up; STAG = Statewide TMDL Advisory Group

From: Gildea, Jason
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 9:43 AM
To: Berry, Vern
Subject: FW: STAG Update for May 10, 2013

FYI

From: Yashan, Dean [<mailto:DYashan@mt.gov>]
Sent: Friday, May 10, 2013 8:26 AM
To: Brian Sugden (Brian.Sugden@plumcreek.com); Bruce Sims; Christine Brick; Dave Mumford (mumfordd@ci.billings.mt.us); Doug Parker (DParker@hydrometrics.com); Frank, Gary; Jay Bodner; Joe Gutkoski; John Youngberg (johnny@mfbf.org); Robin Cunningham; Starr Sullivan (starrs@ci.missoula.mt.us); Stephen Granzow (meadowlark@mt.net); Jeffrey Tiberi
Cc: Bostrom, Mark; Gildea, Jason; Mathieus, George; DalSoglio, Julie
Subject: STAG Update for May 10, 2013

I am resending with a more appropriate “subject” title.

Dear STAG members:

With the recent approval of the Lower Gallatin TMDL document, we have now exceeded 1000 TMDLs contained within more than 45 TMDL documents. This includes 209 TMDLs for calendar year 2012. Below is an update regarding the 2014 completion schedule:

- We have completed 342 TMDLs toward the 664 requirement.
- The majority of all necessary field data for the remaining TMDL work has been collected. There is limited sampling required this year and none planned for 2014 other than additional assessment sampling required for a few Flathead basin streams as required by Attachment B of the negotiated agreement.
- In addition to field data collection, the majority of the remaining TMDL projects have had additional significant progress. The following projects are recently through public comment or ready to initiate public comment:
 - Bonita – Superior Metals (14 TMDLs); submitted to EPA
 - Judith Mountains (34 TMDLs); public comment recently closed
 - Boulder – Elkhorn Sediment, Nutrients & Temperature (25 TMDLs); public comment to start soon
 - Lower Blackfoot Nutrients (10 TMDLs); public comment to start soon
 - Rock (34 TMDLs); public comment to start soon
- We are on target to meet the 2014 schedule requirements

Other DEQ/EPA TMDL updates include:

- DEQ currently has 7 TMDL planners. Tim Byron recently retired and we are hiring a replacement planner. Darrin Kron recently took an internal promotion as the manager of the Monitoring and Assessment Section. We hired Paul Kusnierz as Darrin’s replacement.
- EPA currently has 3 TMDL planners in Montana. Several TMDL projects include a mix of DEQ and EPA TMDL personnel.

- DEQ has initiated a TMDL project for Otter Creek (tributary to Tongue River). This includes 3 TMDLs (salinity, sediment, iron).
- DEQ maintains a TMDL outreach website (wiki) that has or will have updated information for all ongoing TMDL projects in the state. We also routinely update our other TMDL informational website pages.

STAG updates include:

- Frank Picket retired and we solicited nominations for a hydroelectric industry representative; none were received.
- Robin Cunningham has retired as a member of the STAG and has been helping us solicit a nominee for the fishing-related businesses.
- Ronald Buentemeier has retired as a member of the STAG and I am working with Jeff Tiberi on a STAG replacement for conservation district supervisors west of the continental divide.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, feel free to respond to this e-mail or call me at (406) 444 – 5317.